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DATA ON CHANGE IN SUBORDINATION, OPERATIONS OF ENTERPRISES
OF THE AZERBAIDZHAN OFFSHORE PETROLEUM INDUSTRY

[Comment: Several articles in May - August 1953 issues of Soviet newspapers indicate the amalgamation of enterprises of the Azerbaydzhan offshore petroleum industry, i.e., of the Azmorneft' Association, into the organization of the larger and older Azneft' Association. Offshore petroleum enterprises listed under the Azneft' Association in these articles include the Artemneft' Trust, the Gyurgyanneft' Trust, the Bukhta Il'ich Oil Field, and the Exploratory Offshore Drilling Trust. Excerpts from the articles indicating these subordinations are given below.

Numbers in parentheses refer to appended sources.]

According to Sovetskaya Moldaviya of 2 June 1953, Oil Field No 3 of the Gyurgyanneft' Trust was the first in the Azneft' Association to fulfill the half-year plan for production of liquid fuel. (1) Bakinskiy Rabochiy of 3 July 1953 stated that the Azneft' Association had fulfilled the half-year plan for production of petroleum. The paper listed the Gyurgyanneft' Trust among the trusts which had exceeded the half-year production plan. (2)

On 1 August 1953, Bakinskiy Rabochiy reported that the Azneft' Association had fulfilled the 7-month plan for production of petroleum. The Gyurgyanneft' Trust was listed among the trusts having fulfilled the 7-month plan ahead of schedule, while the Artemneft' Trust was listed among those having fulfilled the 7-month plan. (3)

The same paper on 19 July 1953 reported that, since the beginning of the year, the number of operating oil wells at the Bukhta Il'ich Oil Field of the Stalinneft' Trust /of the Azneft' Association/ had increased by 21. The conversion of oil wells from the compressor method of operation to the deep well

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pump method had resulted in the use of this compressed air in reactivating idle wells. It was further reported that the offshore Bukhta Il'ich oil field of the Stalinneft' Trust had fulfilled the 7-month plan ahead of schedule.(4)

Bakinskiy Rabochiy of 29 May 1953 reported that the Azneft' Association's plan for exploratory and developmental drilling had been exceeded because of the outstanding performance of the leading drilling offices. However, the paper stated that half of the drilling enterprises of the trust had failed to fulfill the 4-month plan.

The paper charged that the directors of the Exploratory Offshore Drilling Trust had tolerated many shortcomings at exploratory drilling sites. Lelayants, manager of the trust, and Babayev, chief engineer of the trust, were held to be responsible for the trust's having fulfilled the 4-month drilling plan by only 80 percent.

The article further reported that the shortcomings had continued into May. The drilling offices at Neftyanyye Kamni and Ostrov Zhiloy were said to be working unsatisfactorily, having fulfilled the plan for drilling in offshore areas by only 89.6 percent. These offices failed to bring in 26 oil wells called for by the plan /period not stated.(5)

SOURCES

1. Kishinev, Sovetskaya Moldaviya, 2 Jun 53
2. Baku, Bakinskiy Rabochiy, 3 Jul 53
3. Ibid., 1 Aug 53
4. Ibid., 19 Jul 53
5. Ibid., 29 May 53

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